



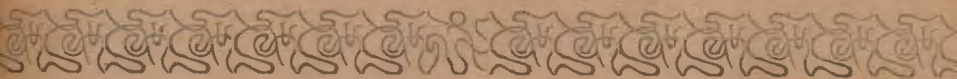
ROCKY BAYOU



BAPTIST ASSOCIATION



1893



MINUTES

OF THE

Fifty-second Annual Session

OF THE

Rocky Bayou

Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

ANTIOCH CHURCH,

IZARD COUNTY, ARKANSAS,

October 7, 1893.



D. D. RAY & CO., PRINTERS,  
315 N. 14th Street, St. Louis, Mo.

## MINUTES.

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The Rocky Bayou Baptist Association convened in its fifty-second annual session with Antioch church, Izard county, Arkansas, on Saturday morning October 7th, 1893.

At 11 o'clock, a. m., the introductory sermon was preached to a large congregation by Elder A. J. Whaley, the appointee, text, "For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil." 1 John 3:8.

After recess and refreshments the Association was called to order by W. M. Duren, the moderator of last session. After singing, "Come thou fount of every blessing," and, "I love thy kingdom Lord" and after prayer by Eld. W. C. Brown, the moderator appointed Bros. L. Jennings and R. L. Landers to read the letters from the churches. The names of the churches were called and letters read. Melbourne and Pleasant Valley petitioned for the next session. The following query was read from Bell Vue Church; "Does the 7th article of our Declaration of Faith teach that regeneration precedes repentance and faith; if so, is that Baptist doctrine?"

On motion the Association proceeded to the election of moderator and clerk. Eld. W. C. Brown was appointed to take the vote for moderator and Bro. H. L. Thomas for clerk. The election resulted in the choice Eld. of W. M. Duren as moderator and W. K. Estes as clerk.

Called for petitionary letters from churches desiring admission into this Association. None presented.

Called for corresponding messengers from sister Associations: Whereupon Bro. W. L. Reid from Big Creek, and Bro. T. H. Horn from White River accepted the invitation and were given the hand of fellowship by the Moderator and welcome among us. Invitation to visiting ministers was overlooked on account of an omission in the minutes last year by the printer.

The Moderator announced the following committees:

1. On Arrangement of Business; Elds. J. W. Gist., J. W. Miller and Bro. S. A. Campbell.
2. On Preaching: Messengers of Antioch Church.
3. On Baptist Literature: Bros. R. L. Landers and J. H. Alexander and Eld. H. F. Vermillion.
4. On Associational Missions: R. L. Landers, Byrd Pate, H. L. Thomas and T. K. Goodman.
5. On Foreign Missions: Elds. S. A. Marchant, A. J. Whaley and Bro. R. J. Richardson.
6. On Sabbath Schools: Robert Gray, B. S. Stroud and Eld. J. W. Henley.
7. On Finance: Alex Shell and James H. Bone.
8. On Temperance: Elds. W. H. Wren, H. F. Vermillion and Bro. T. R. Goodman.
9. On Destitution. Eld. A. J. Whaley and Bros. Byrd Pate and S. A. Campbell.
10. On Prayermeetings: Eld. J. W. Miller and Bros. Wilson Price and J. N. Haley.
11. On State Missions: A. A. Spradlin, L. D. Barnes and Wilson Price.
12. On Ministerial Education: H. L. Thomas, J. W. Gist and M. L. Reves.
13. On Schools and Colleges: Elds. H. F. Vermillion and W. H. Wren and Bro. B. A. Spradlin.

The committee on Divine Services reported.

Motion by Bro. R. L. Landers to refer the query from Bell Vue Church to a special committee of three prevailed. On Motion of Bro. Landers, Elds. J. W. Miller, W. M. Duren and H. F. Vermillion were made such committee.

On Motion the Association adjourned till next Monday morning at 8:30 o'clock.

#### DIVINE SERVICES.

Preaching Saturday night at lamp-lighting by Eld. S. A. Marchant. Text: Rom. 7:25.

On Sunday at 11 a. m. Eld. H. F. Vermillion preached to a large congregation, from Isaiah 48:18, "O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea."

Sunday evening at 3 o'clock Bro. H. L. Thomas preached from John 3:14, 15.

Sunday night Eld. W. C. Brown preached from John 14:6.

*This was one of the most moving sermons I ever preached, and the first one I preached at a general meeting. H. F. Vermillion*



MONDAY.

OCTOBER 9TH, 1893.

The Association convened at 9:05 o'clock, a. m., Moderator and Clerk present; after singing, prayer by Eld. John W. Weatherbee.

Minutes of Saturday read and approved. Called for report of committee on Arrangement of Business. Report read and adopted, as follows:

We, the committee of arrangements, beg leave to make the following report: 1st. Call the roll and mark absentees; 2nd. Renew call for churches desiring membership; 3d. Renew invitation to corresponding messengers; 4th. Renew invitation to visiting ministers; 5th. Call for report on Baptist Literature; 6th. Call for report on Associational Missions; 7th. Call for report on Foreign Missions; 8th. Call for report on Sabbath Schools; 9. Call for report on Finance; 10th. Select place for next session; 11th. Elect some one to preach the introductory sermon; 12th. Call for the report on Temperance; 13th. Call for report on Destitution; 14th. Call for report on Prayermeetings; 15. Call for report on State Missions; 16th. Call for report on Ministerial Education; 17th. Call for report on Schools and Colleges; 18th. Call for report of Missionary Board; 19th. Call for report of Board of Ministerial Education; 20th. Answer query from Bell Vue Church; 21st. Call for report of Financial Agent; 22d. Arrange correspondence to Sister Associations, the Arkansas Baptist Convention and Southern Baptist Convention; 23d. Miscellaneous Business.

J. W. GIST.	} Com.
J. W. MILLER.	
S. A. CAMPBELL.	

The roll was called and messenger present as follows:

*Antioch.*—M. T. Patterson, J. J. Lawson, S. K. Marlin and W. B. Sharrack.

*Bell Vue.*—J. F. Cooper and D. J. Smith.

*City Rock.*—James Wyatt and M. B. Marchant.

*Concord.*—B. S. Stroud and Robert Gray.

*Fairview.*—Elder W. M. Duren and W. M. Gaston.

*Jamestown.*—Byrd Pate.

*Melbourne.*—R. L. Landers, Wilson Price, R. J. Richardson, and W. K. Estes.

*Mt. Nebo 1.*—B. L. Waller, John McElmurry, J. W. Gist and Martin Ross.

*Mt. Nebo 2.*—M. L. Reves.

*Mount Pleasant.*—Alex Shell, W. O. Taylor and F. B. Maulden.

*Newhope.*—Willis H. Hawkins.

*Philadelphia*.—A. A. Spradlin, B. A. Spradlin and J. A. Williams.

*Pilgrim's Rest*.—H. F. Vermillion and J. H. Sanders.

*Pleasant Hill*.—L. D. Barnes and W. H. Wren.

*Pleasant Valley*.—T. K. Goodman, S. A. Marchant, Jesse Barlow and J. H. Whitaker.

*Rockey Bayou*.—J. N. Haley, F. O. Pitman and J. H. Alexander.

*Saint's Rest*.—D. R. Freeman, G. B. Wood and M. D. Layton.

*Table Rock*.—A. J. Whaley and W. M. Galloway.

*Unity*.—S. A. Campbell.

*Walnut Valley*.—G. W. Gray, D. F. Floyd and D. M. McCarley.

*Zion Hill*.—J. E. Duren, J. W. Miller, H. Ramsey and L. Beach.

Renewed invitation to corresponding messengers. None present.

Called for visiting ministers. Accepted by Elder W. C. Brown, of Oceolla and Elder John W. Weathersbee of Spring River Association, who were cordially welcomed by the Moderator.

Called for churches not represented Saturday. None present.

Called for report of Committee on Baptist Literature, which was read and adopted as follows:

We, your committee on Baptist Literature, submit the following report: We, as a people profess to take the Bible as our guide, and as we consider it the best Baptist book in the world, we therefore recommend that all our members read it and meditate upon it daily, for it is the command of our blessed Savior. In addition to the Bible we recommend the following publications, viz: *Arkansas Baptist*, *Baptist Gleaner*, *American Baptist*, and *Arkansas Herald*. We also recommend that our preachers and people supply themselves with good Baptist books, that they may be informed more fully upon our distinctive doctrines. Respectfully submitted.

R. L. LANDERS,  
J. H. ALEXANDER, } Com.  
H. F. VERMILLION,

Called for report of committee on Associational Missions, which was read and adopted as follows:

We, your committee on Associational Missions beg leave to submit the following: Believing that there is a great need of missionary work in the bounds of this Association, we therefore recommend that the Board employ an efficient missionary for as much time as in their judgment money can be collected from the several churches to pay him; and we believe that he should preach on Baptist doctrine, especially *communion*, in as many of the churches as is practicable. For we verily believe there are many good Christians out of the church to-day for no other reason than a lack of knowledge on the communion question. We think also that he should hold revival meetings in the more

destitute places. We would especially urge upon every church the great necessity of contributing liberally to the Associational Mission Fund; for we fully believe that this plan, if properly carried out, is the surest and best plan for each church and community to have the benefit of able preaching. In thus doing, the Master's cause will be greatly advanced and the Baptist doctrines more fully taught and understood throughout our bounds. We now desire to express our high appreciation of the noble work of our beloved brother, B. F. Milam, our missionary the past year.

R. L. LANDERS, }  
T. K. GOODMAN, } Com.  
H. L. THOMAS, }

Called for report of Committee on Foreign Missions, which was read and adopted as follows:

Your committee on Foreign Missions submit the following report: We first would call attention to the large fields now ripe for the gospel; that thousands are now in heathen darkness. We recommend that each Baptist in this Association give cheerfully to send the gospel to the heathen that they may be turned from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God and that each church appoint a time and request their pastor to preach a sermon on missions.

S. A. MARCHANT, }  
A. J. WHALEY, } Com.  
R. J. RICHARDSON, }

Called for report of committee on Sabbath-schools, which was read and adopted as follows:

We, your committee on Sabbath-schools beg leave to report as follows: We believe the duty of parents in the religious training of their children is too much neglected. We further believe there is no better way of educating them in God's Word and their duty toward God, than in the Sabbath-school. Therefore, as an associational body we should urge on the pastors the great importance of organizing where there is no school. If we don't educate our children, others will. When we hear the many false doctrines now being taught in our country, it is high time that we were fully aroused to a sense of our duty. We recommend Baptist Literature because it is sound in doctrine.

J. W. HENLEY, }  
B. S. STROUD, } Com.  
ROBERT GRAY, }

Called for report of Committee on Finance which was read and adopted as follows:

We, your committee on Finance report amount collected for printing Minutes, \$21.60.

Alex SHELL, }  
JAMES H. BONE, } Com.



Pilgrim's Rest Church in Independence county was selected as the church with which the next session is to be held.

Elected Eld. H. F. Vermillion to preach the introductory sermon at the next session, with Eld. W. M. Duren alternate.

Called for report of committee on Temperance, which was read and as follows :

We, your committee on Temperance beg leave to report as follows: We regard intemperance, in any form, as injurious to health and morals, and believe that the manufacture and sale of spiritous and malt liquors, as a beverage, is a great curse to the human family, we therefore recommend and urge that each member of the churches composing the Association abstain from the use of such as a beverage and use all reasonable means in his power to prevent the same in others.

T. K. GOODMAN. } Com.  
H. F. VERMILLION. }

Called for report of committee on Destitution, which was read and adopted as follows :

We, your committee on Destitution, submit the following report: The destitution in our bounds is as follows, from Cushman to White River, from Jamestown to Calico Rock; also east of Franklin. We would specify the following points; 1. Pineville; 2. Wideman in Guthrie Township; 3. Wideman school-house, 3 miles south of Jumbo P. O. 4. Mount Olive; 5. Twin Creek; 6. Smith's school-house near John Sharp's; 7. Shady Grove, 4 miles north of the Spann school-house in Izard county.

A. J. WHALEY. } Com.  
S. A. CAMPBELL. }

Called for report of committee on Prayermeetings, which was read and adopted as follows :

In as much as of ourselves we can do nothing, and that God has so abundantly promised to answer our prayers, and tells us we should pray without ceasing, and feeling a great need of a revival in our souls, and in the bounds of this Association, we advise the churches to appoint and keep up regular prayer-meetings which we believe to be the very life of the churches.

J. W. MILLER. } Com.  
WILSON PRICE. }  
J. N. HALEY. }

Called for report of committee on State missions, which was read, whereupon Eld. H. F. Vermillion presented and read a substitute which was adopted as follows ;



"We believe that with the assistance of the churches in the state, our State Mission Board can do a grand work that is much needed. We therefore recommend that the churches in this Association cooperate with that board and aid it with their contributions." Whereupon a collection was taken for State missions, amounting to \$6.30.

Called for report of committee on Ministerial Education, which was read and adopted as follows:

Knowing that the education of young men for the ministerial work is one of the most vital importance and one which is calculated to promote the best interest of our denomination for our Master's service. We therefore recommend that the young men within the bounds of our Association who show the moral training and spiritual qualification that is so essential in this grand and glorious work, be urged to procure a good education and that they be liberally aided by our people in the way of money when necessary in procuring that education.

J. W. GIST.  
H. L. THOMAS. } Com.

Called for report of committee on Schools and Colleges which was read and adopted as follows:

We, your committee on Schools and Colleges beg leave to report as follows. We believe from the commission of our Lord to the church, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations," that he intended that his people should be an educational people; we believe also that it is the duty of parents to educate their children, and of the churches to educate their ministers. We therefore recommend that this Association continue its endorsement of Mountain Home College, Ouachita College and Central Female College and that we give them aid by our contributions and patronage.

H. F. VERMILLION.  
B. A. SPRADLIN. } Com.

Called for report on Missionary Board which was read and adopted as follows:

We, the Missionary Board beg leave to report the following: We have held two meetings during the year. We had the co-operation of 13 churches and a few of the pastors. We refer to the report of our treasurer for what we have done financially. We employed Eld. B. F. Milam who labored within our bounds for which we promised to pay him \$1.50 per day.

W. M. DUREN, chairman.

P. L. STRAUD, clerk.

The report of R. L. Waller, treasurer of the board is as follows:

To amount from Antioch	Church.	.....	\$ .50
“ “ Bell View	“	.....	5.00
“ “ Fairview	“	.....	5.00
“ “ Melborne	“	.....	8.50
“ “ Mt. Nebo	“ No. 1.	.....	1.75
“ “ Mt. Pleasant	“	.....	1.85
“ “ Philadelphia	“	.....	5.00
“ “ Pilgrims' Rest	“	.....	2.75
“ “ Pleasant Valley	“	.....	5.50
“ “ Rocky Bayou	“	.....	3.00
“ “ Saints' Rest	“	.....	.90
“ “ Walnut Valley	“	.....	1.50
“ “ Zion Hill	“	.....	5.00
“ “ Mrs. Townsend	.....	.....	.25

\$46.50

By bal. due R. L. Waller ..... \$4.05  
 Amt paid Bro. Milam from Mt. Pleasant Church ..... 1.10

5.15

Balance in treasurer's hands ..... \$41.35

Report of B. F. Milam, missionary.

Days labored, 32 at \$1.50 per day ..... \$48 00  
 To amount paid by Albert Martin ..... \$5 00  
 “ “ John McElmurry ..... 40  
 “ “ Calico Rock ..... 1 35

6 75

Balance due missionary ..... \$41 25

The Moderator appointed the following as a missionary board:  
 R. L. Landers, D. J. Smith, P. L. Straud, T. K. Goodman and G. S. Rector.

Called for report of Board of Ministerial Education, which was read and adopted as follows:

We, your board on Ministerial Education beg leave to submit the following report: At our first meeting, after organizing by making W. M. Duren, chairman, S. R. Hinkle, treasurer and J. W. C. Gardner secretary, we determined to appeal personally or by letter to each church within our bounds for contributions toward the maintenance of Bro. H. L. Thomas, at that time attending Ouachita College and needing assistance. In response to these appeals we obtained at different times as follows:

From Bell Vue Church.....	\$ 3 00
“ Concord Church.....	4 10
“ Philadelphia Church.....	12 55
“ Mt. Pleasant Church.....	1 00
“ Fairview Church.....	1 40
“ Jamestown Church.....	2 00
“ Rocky Bayou Church.....	85
“ Pleasant Valley Church.....	1 00
	<hr/>
Total.....	\$25 90
By expenses in correspondence and remitting.....	40
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Remitted to Bro. Thomas.....\$25 50

We take pleasure in expressing, at Bro. Thomas' request, his thanks to the churches for their timely aid. It is but simple justice to say, in behalf of the Melbourne Church, that the members contributed to the maintenance of our young Bro. Vermillion in the Melbourne high school, and that on this account no appeal was made to them in behalf of Bro. Thomas. Respectfully,

W. M. DUREN.  
S. R. HINKLE. } Com.  
J. W. C. GARDNER. }

Called for report of financial agent which was read and adopted as follows:

Financial agent for foreign missions begs leave to report that he has received and forwarded \$6.50 the past year.

J. E. DUREN, financial agent.

Called for report of committee on query from Bell Vue Church, which was read and adopted as follows: We your committee appointed to answer the query from Bell Vue Church submit the following: We understand that the last clause in the seventh article of Faith is ambiguous; that regeneration is the fruits of repentance and faith in the sense that regeneration is wrought in the soul when the sinner truly repents of his sins and trusts in Christ. Baptists have always taught this.

J. W. MILLER.  
H. F. VERMILLION. } Com.  
W. M. DUREN. }